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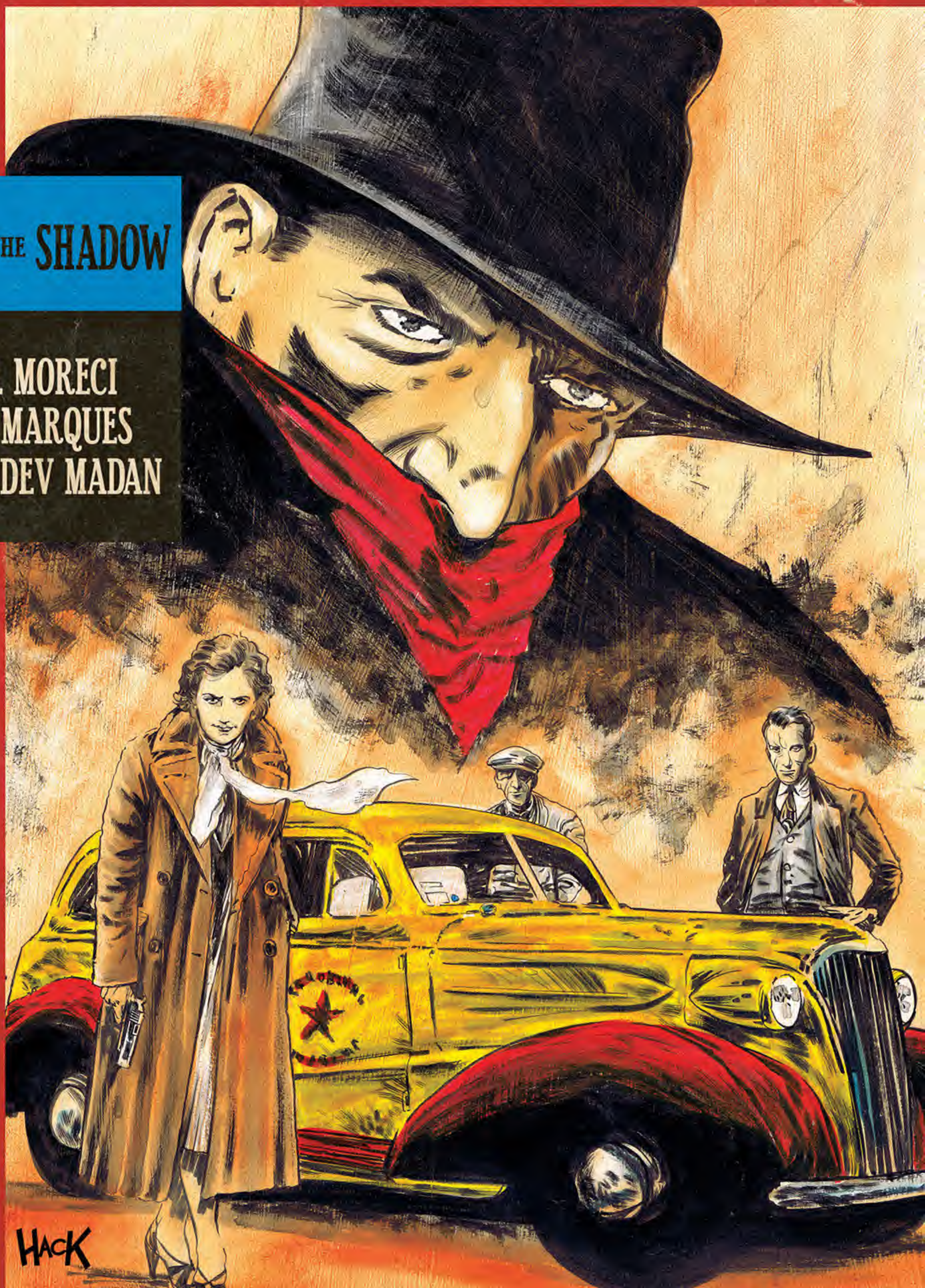
\$7.99

THE Shadow

COMPLETE
AND
UNABRIDGED

AGENTS OF THE SHADOW

by MICHAEL MORECI
ANTHONY MARQUES
MORITAT & DEV MADAN



THE *Shadow*

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"HERE'S HOW THE WHOLE
THING WORKS. YOU LISTENIN'?"

"IT'S ACTUALLY KIND OF
GENIUS WHEN YOU GET
RIGHT DOWN TO IT."



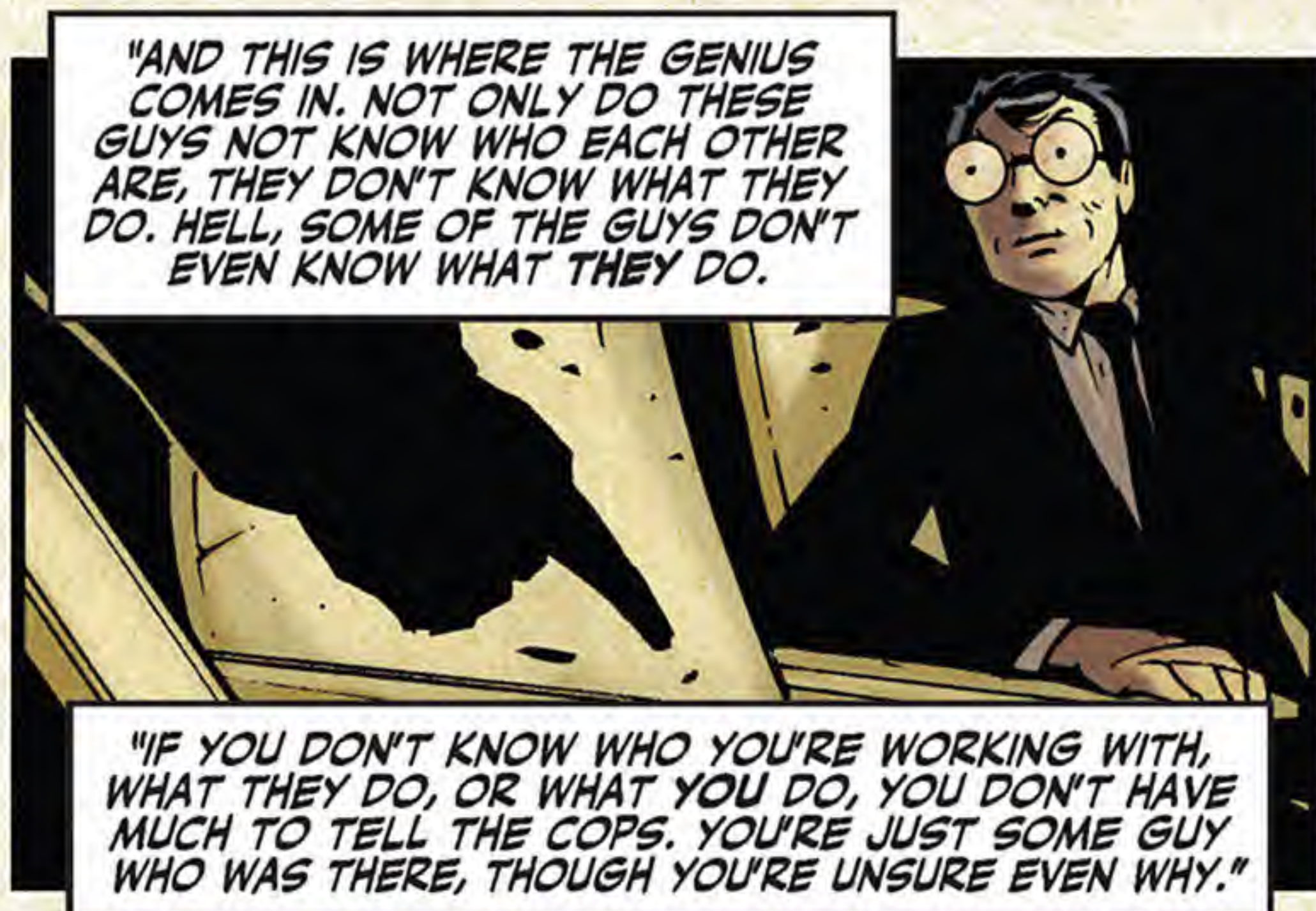
"BUT, WE STILL HAVE TO GIVE THESE
DIRTBAGS WHAT THEY DESERVE."

"THE BOSS ALWAYS GIVES
THEM WHAT THEY DESERVE."



WHOEVER THIS MASTERMIND IS, HE HAS A FINE SYSTEM IN PLACE. SEE, HERE'S THE THING: AFTER HE BROKE UP A BUNCH OF THE OTHER SYNDICATES, HE ENLISTED THEIR FOOT SOLDIERS INTO *HIS* GANG.

THE BEAUTY IS THAT THESE FOOT SOLDIERS DON'T KNOW EACH OTHER. THEY'RE JUST FACES IN THE CROWD. PUT THEM ON A JOB TOGETHER AND *VOILA*—YOU CAN'T RAT ON SOMEONE YOU DON'T KNOW.



"AND THIS IS WHERE THE GENIUS COMES IN. NOT ONLY DO THESE GUYS NOT KNOW WHO EACH OTHER ARE, THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY DO. HELL, SOME OF THE GUYS DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THEY DO."

"IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHO YOU'RE WORKING WITH, WHAT THEY DO, OR WHAT YOU DO, YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH TO TELL THE COPS. YOU'RE JUST SOME GUY WHO WAS THERE, THOUGH YOU'RE UNSURE EVEN WHY."

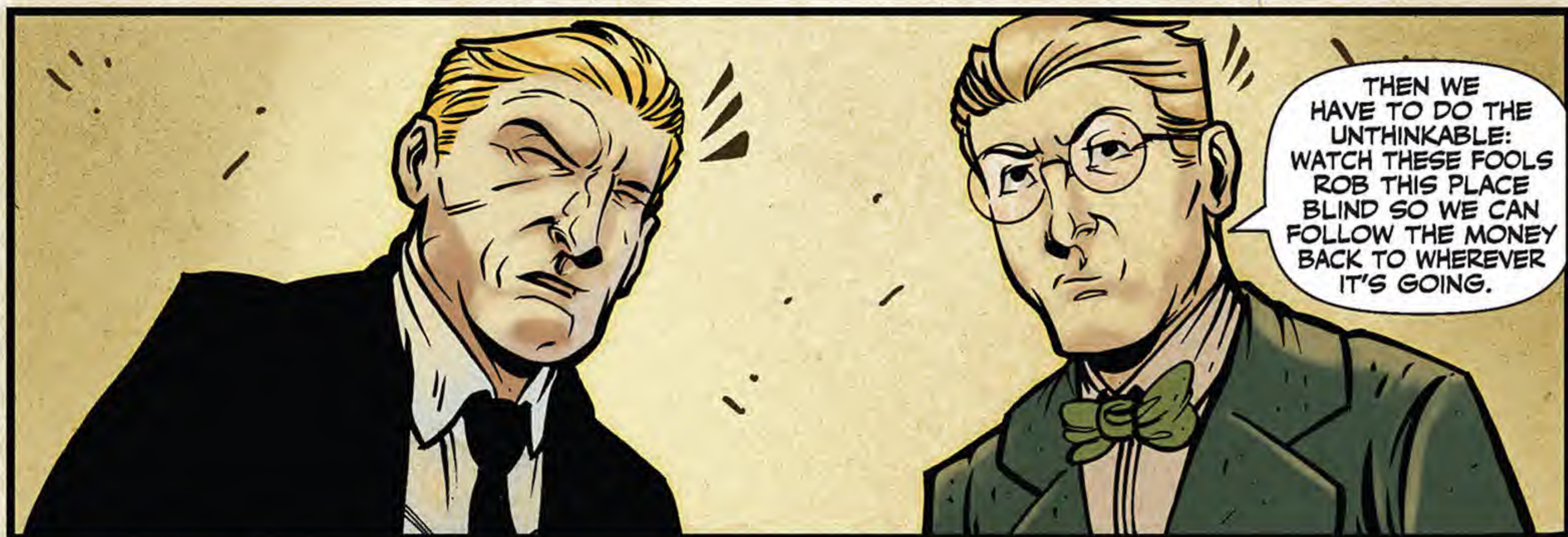


"BUT THAT JUST MEANS YOU HAVE TO KEEP GOING UP THE LADDER. THE LITTLE FISH FEEDS A BIGGER FISH, FEEDS A BIGGER FISH, AND SO ON."

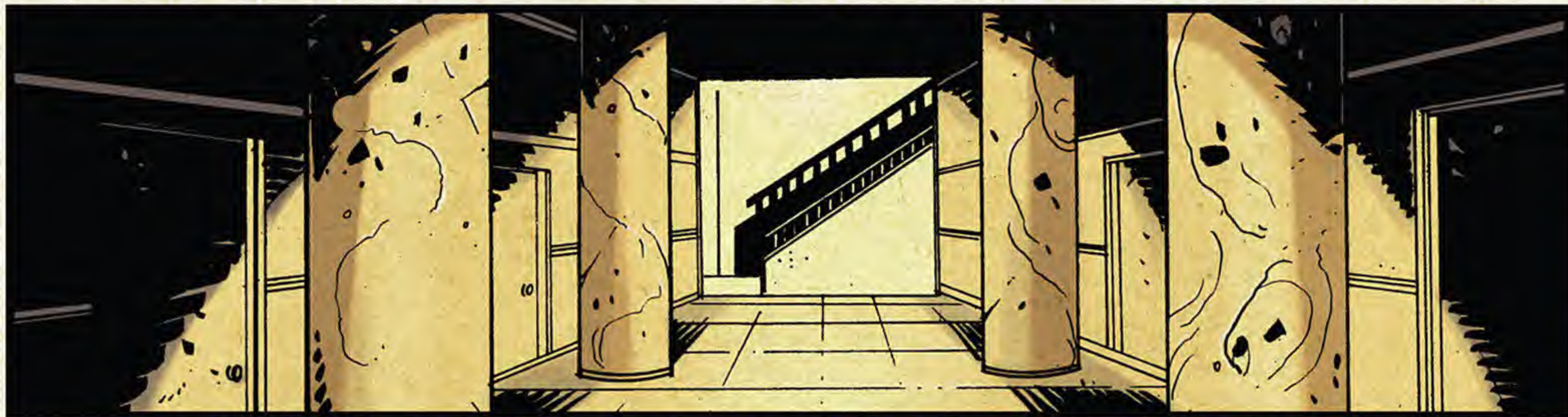
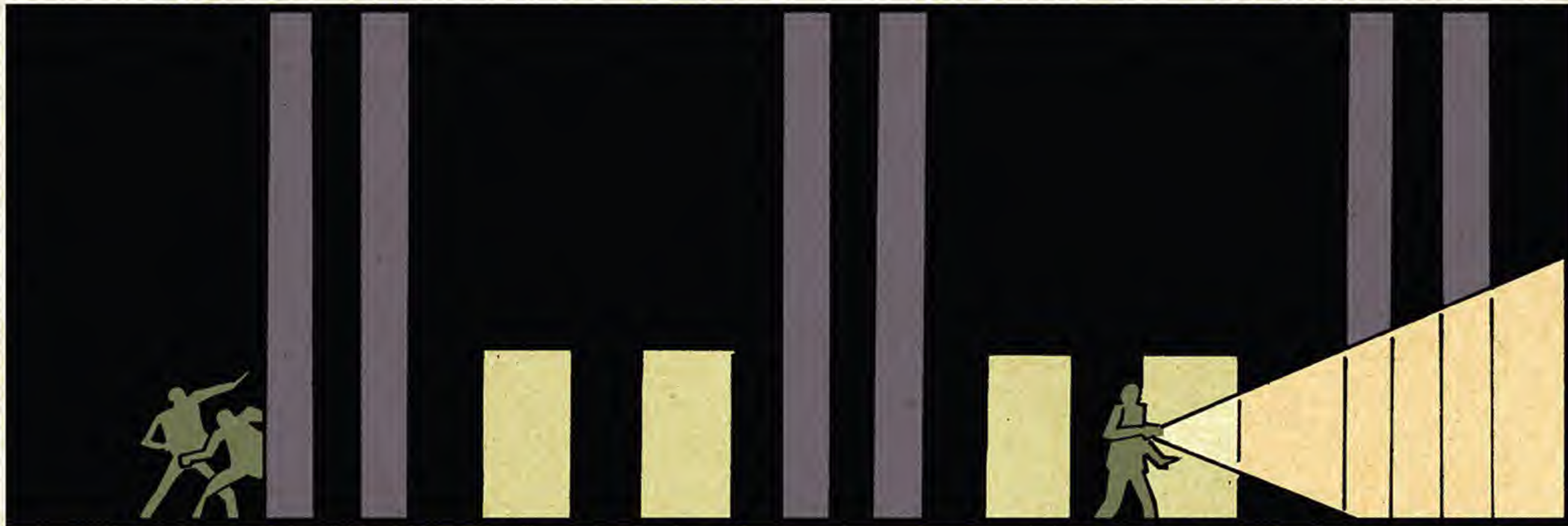


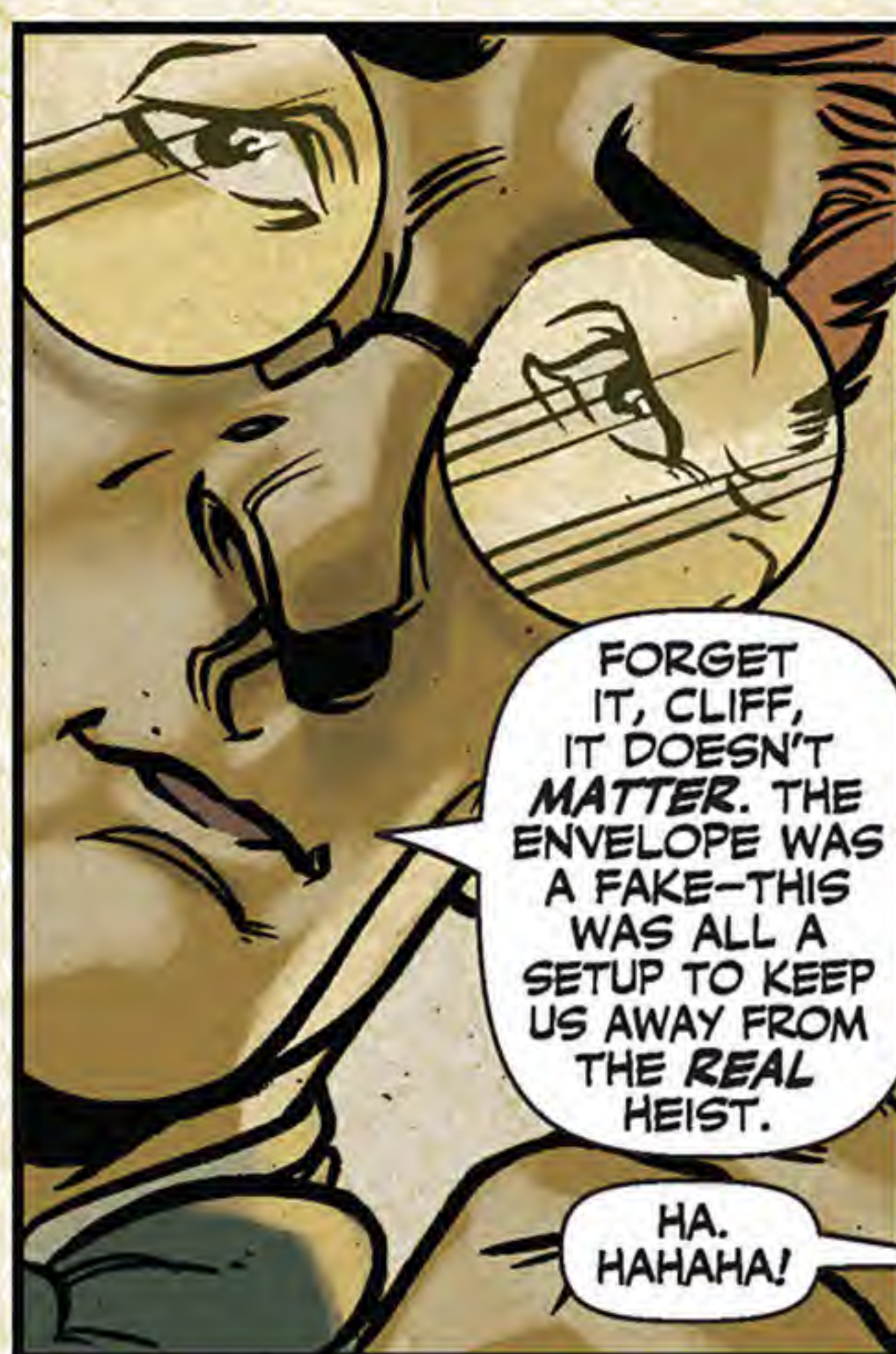
SO WE TAIL HIM?

THAT'S THE PLAN. I'M GUESSING THAT ENVELOPE HAS THE COMBINATION FOR THE VAULT—AND IT HAS TO GO *SOMEWHERE*.



THEN WE HAVE TO DO THE UNTHINKABLE: WATCH THESE FOOLS ROB THIS PLACE BLIND SO WE CAN FOLLOW THE MONEY BACK TO WHEREVER IT'S GOING.



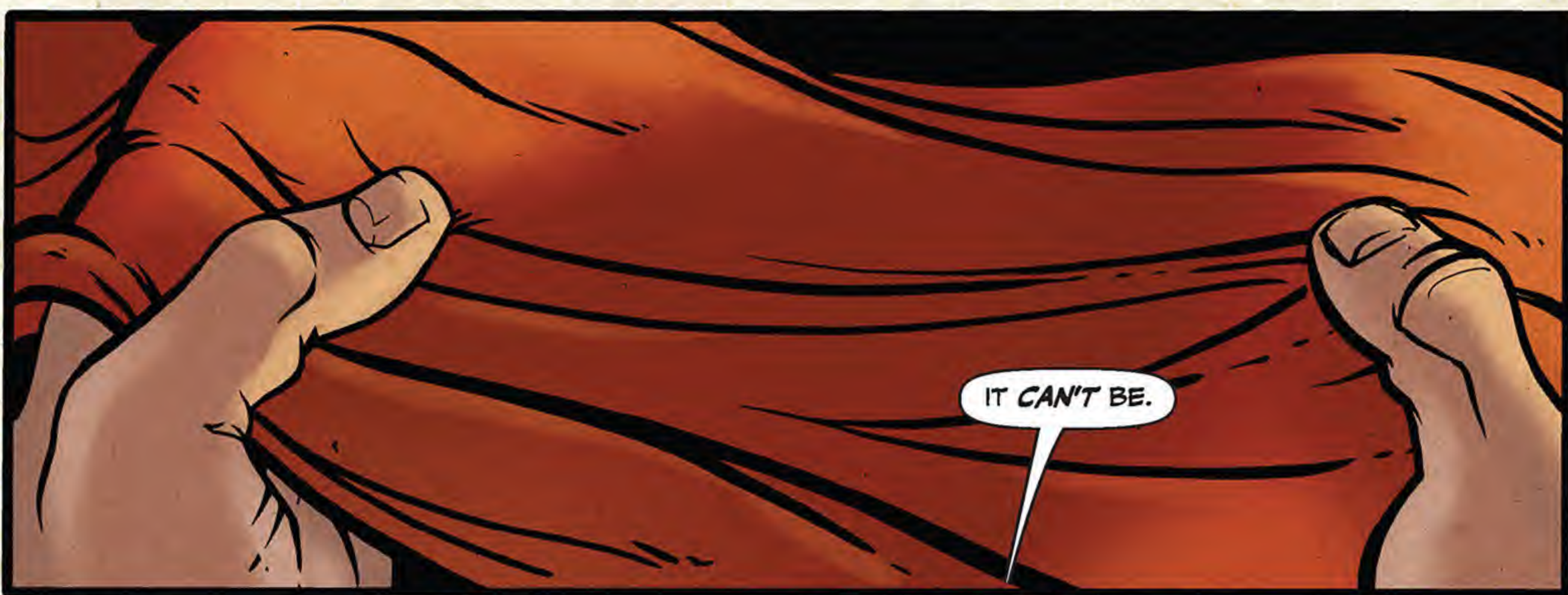
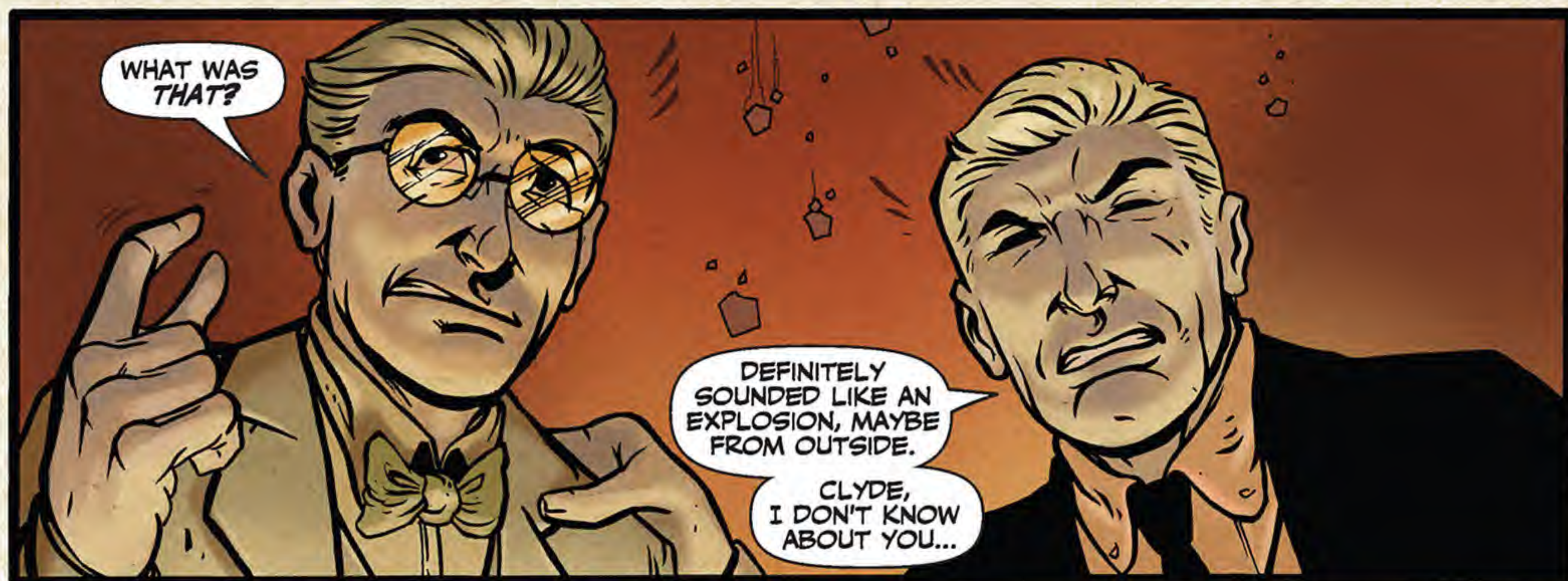




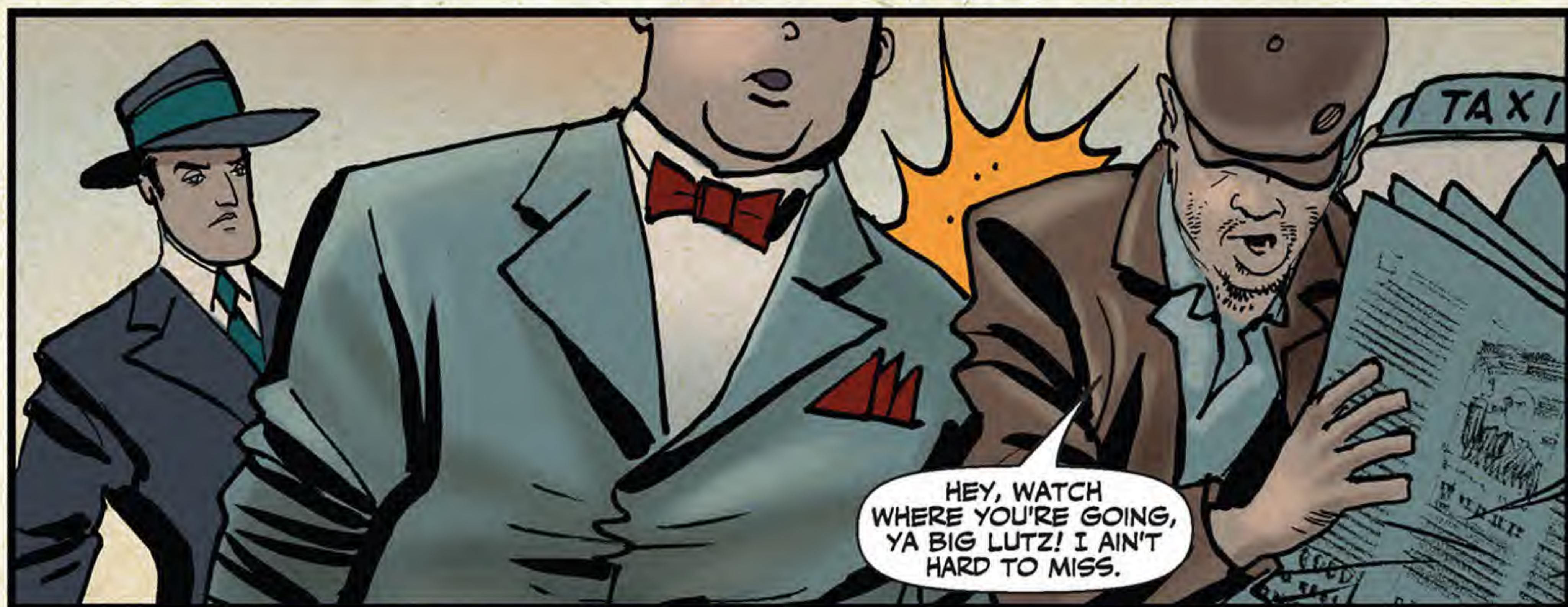
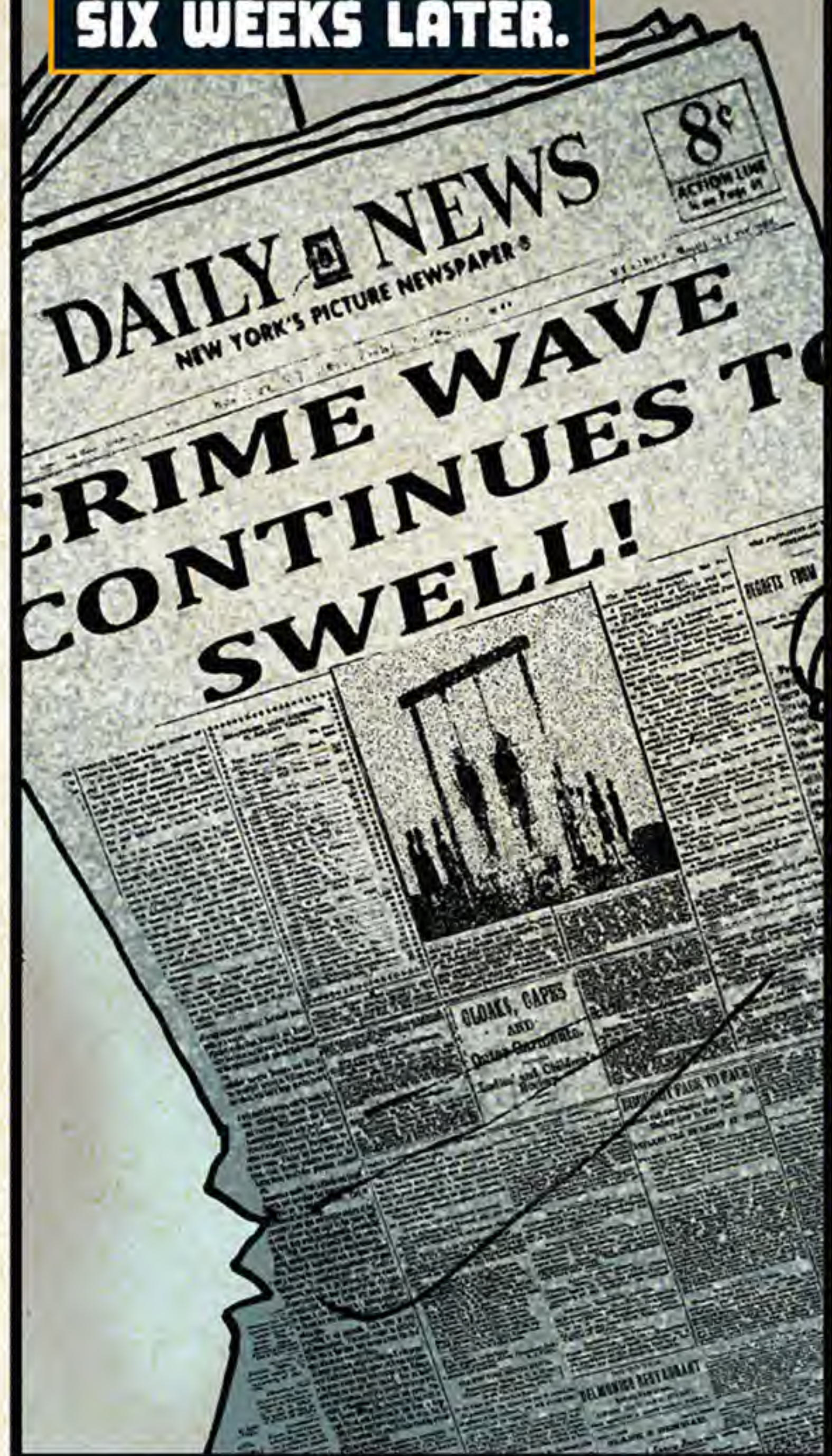




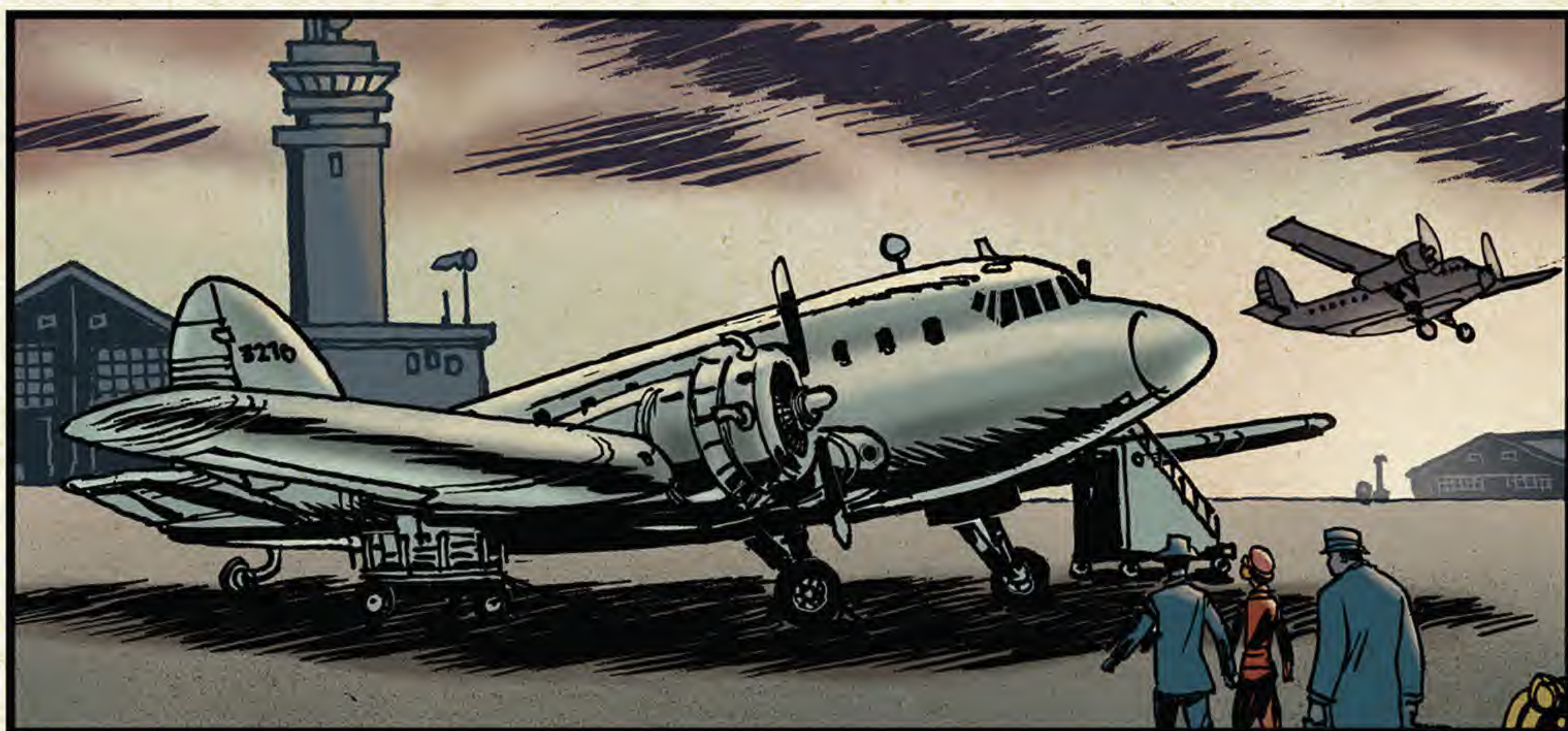




SIX WEEKS LATER.







YOU'RE GOING TO LOVE SHANGHAI. THE NIGHTLIFE IS SO... SEDUCTIVE.

YOU GO AHEAD AND BOARD WHILE HANS AND I CONDUCT SOME LAST-MINUTE BUSINESS.



ALLOW ME TO HELP YOU UP, MA'AM. THESE STEPS ARE STEEPER THAN THEY LOOK.

THANK YOU, BUT I BELIEVE I CAN HANDLE IT ON MY-



OWN.

I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT YOU CAN. SOMETIMES, PEOPLE NEED A HAND.

A LITTLE HELP, JUST IN CASE.



NOW LET'S GET THIS BIRD IN THE SKY.

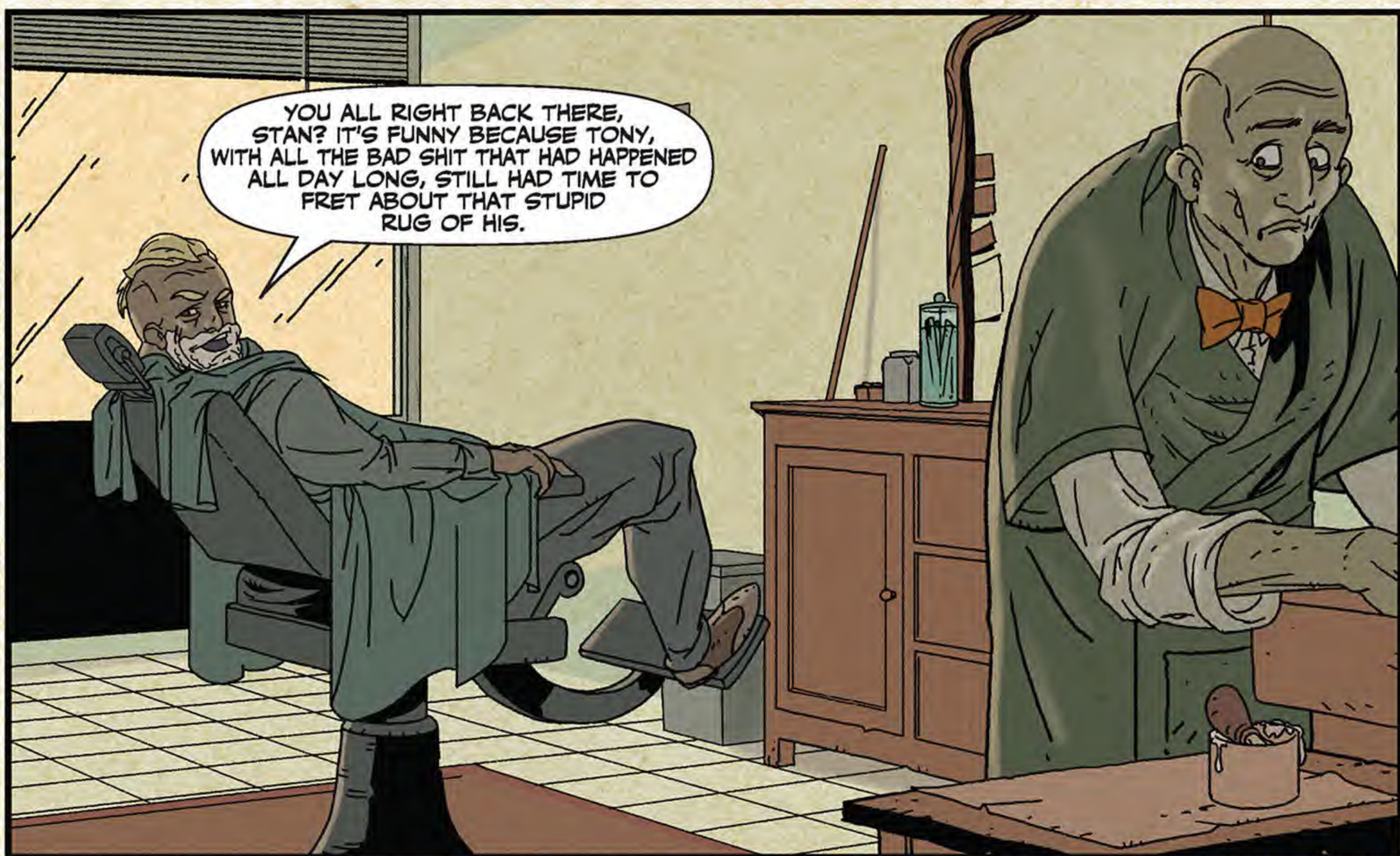


"AND THEN TONY, STILL FUMING
OVER WHAT THEY DID TO JIMMY,
LOOKS OVER AND SAYS..."



HEY, EDDIE,
YOU'RE BLEEDING ALL
OVER MY GOD DAMN
CARPET!

HAHAHA!



YOU ALL RIGHT BACK THERE,
STAN? IT'S FUNNY BECAUSE TONY,
WITH ALL THE BAD SHIT THAT HAD HAPPENED
ALL DAY LONG, STILL HAD TIME TO
FRET ABOUT THAT STUPID
RUG OF HIS.

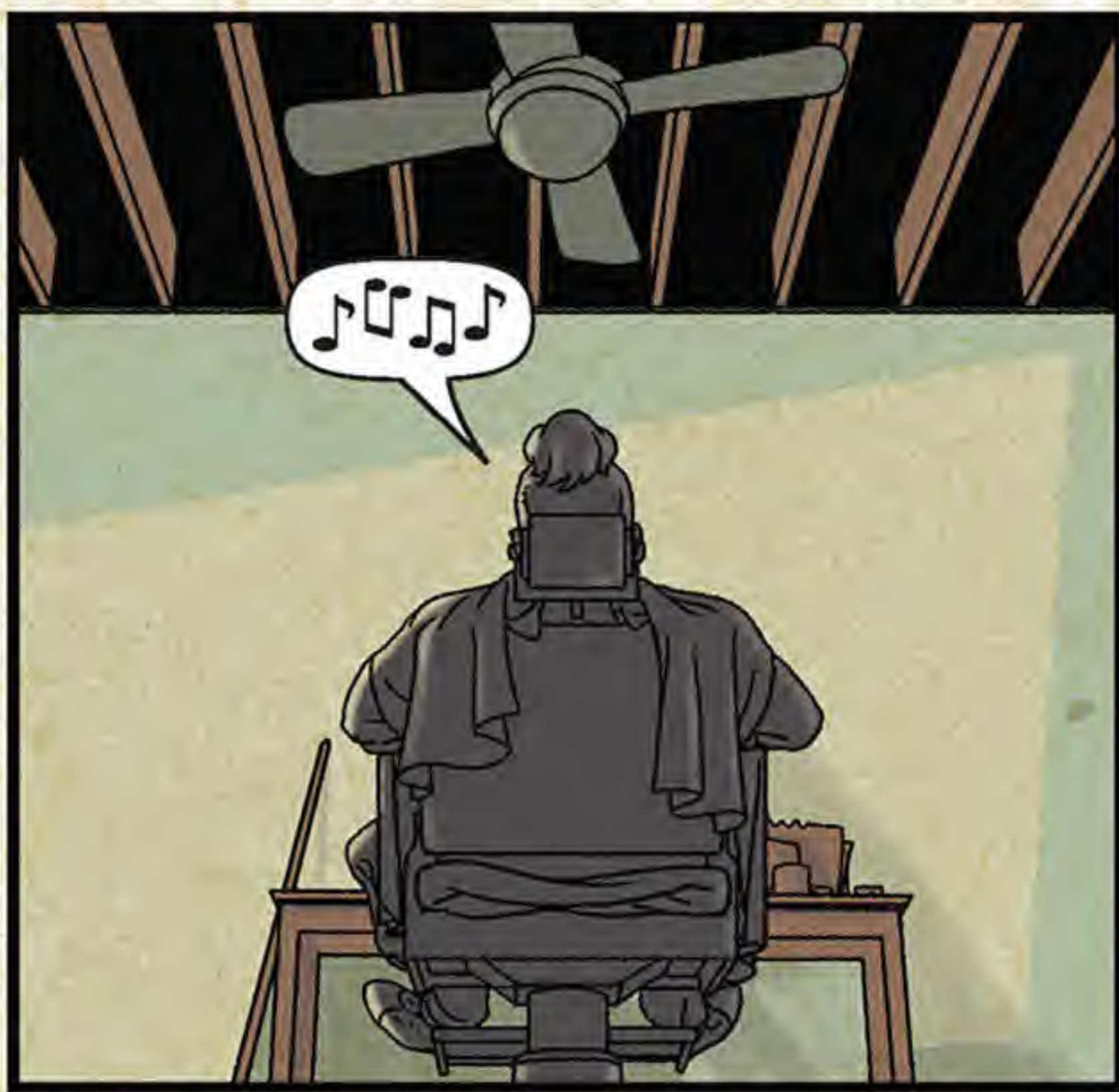


OH
YEAH, YEAH.
JUST...



I NEED TO USE
THE WASHROOM. I'LL BE
BACK IN A MOMENT—YOU
JUST...JUST WAIT
HERE.

HEY, WHERE
ELSE AM I GONNA
GO?



HEY, STAN,
YOU FORGET TO
PAY THE ELECTRIC
COMPANY?

COME ON NOW,
FLIP THE SWITCH
BACK ON.

STAN, YOU
THERE?

STAN?



HEY THERE,
EDDIE.



JESUS,
MAN!

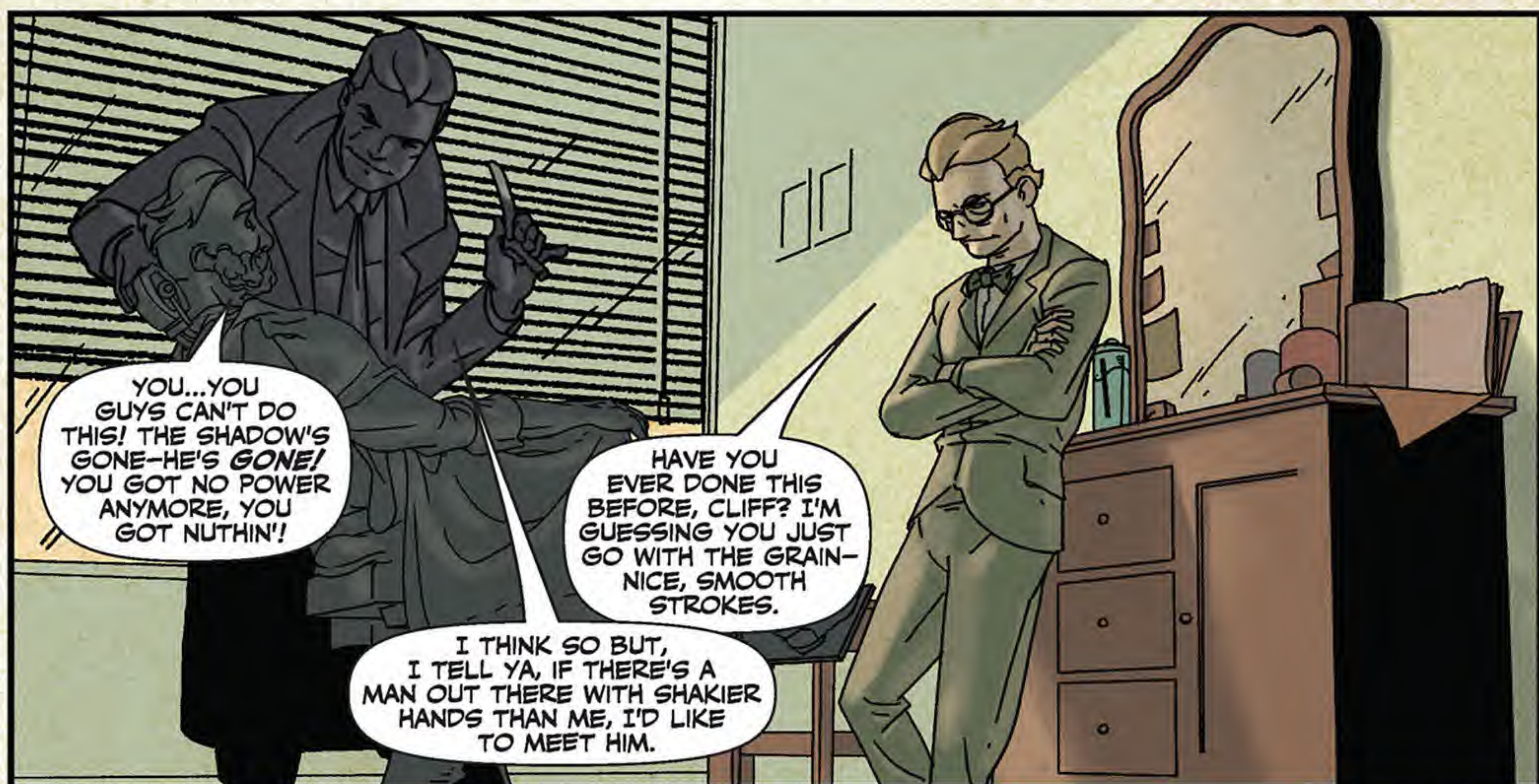
WHOA WHOA
WHOA...WHAT'S THE
HURRY? LAY BACK
DOWN, *RELAX*.

YEAH,
EDDIE...



YOU MIGHT GIVE US THE IMPRESSION
YOU DON'T LIKE SEEING US.

BE OUR
FRIEND—THIS WILL
GO MUCH EASIER IF
YOU ARE.



YOU...YOU GUYS CAN'T DO THIS! THE SHADOW'S GONE—HE'S GONE! YOU GOT NO POWER ANYMORE, YOU GOT NUTHIN'!

HAVE YOU EVER DONE THIS BEFORE, CLIFF? I'M GUESSING YOU JUST GO WITH THE GRAIN—NICE, SMOOTH STROKES.

I THINK SO BUT, I TELL YA, IF THERE'S A MAN OUT THERE WITH SHAKIER HANDS THAN ME, I'D LIKE TO MEET HIM.



HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! STOP! STOP! YOU HAVEN'T EVEN SAID WHAT YOU WANTED YET!

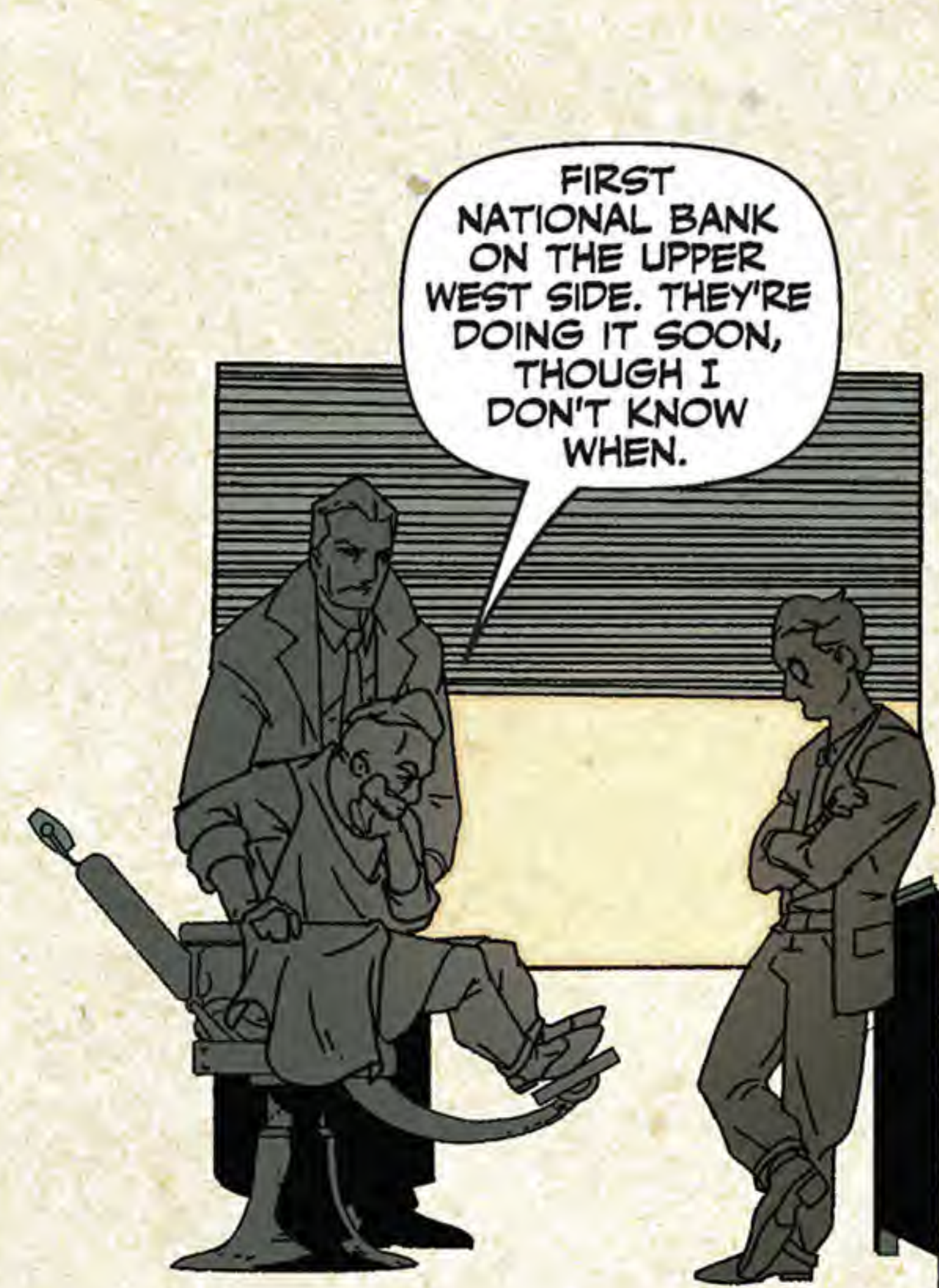
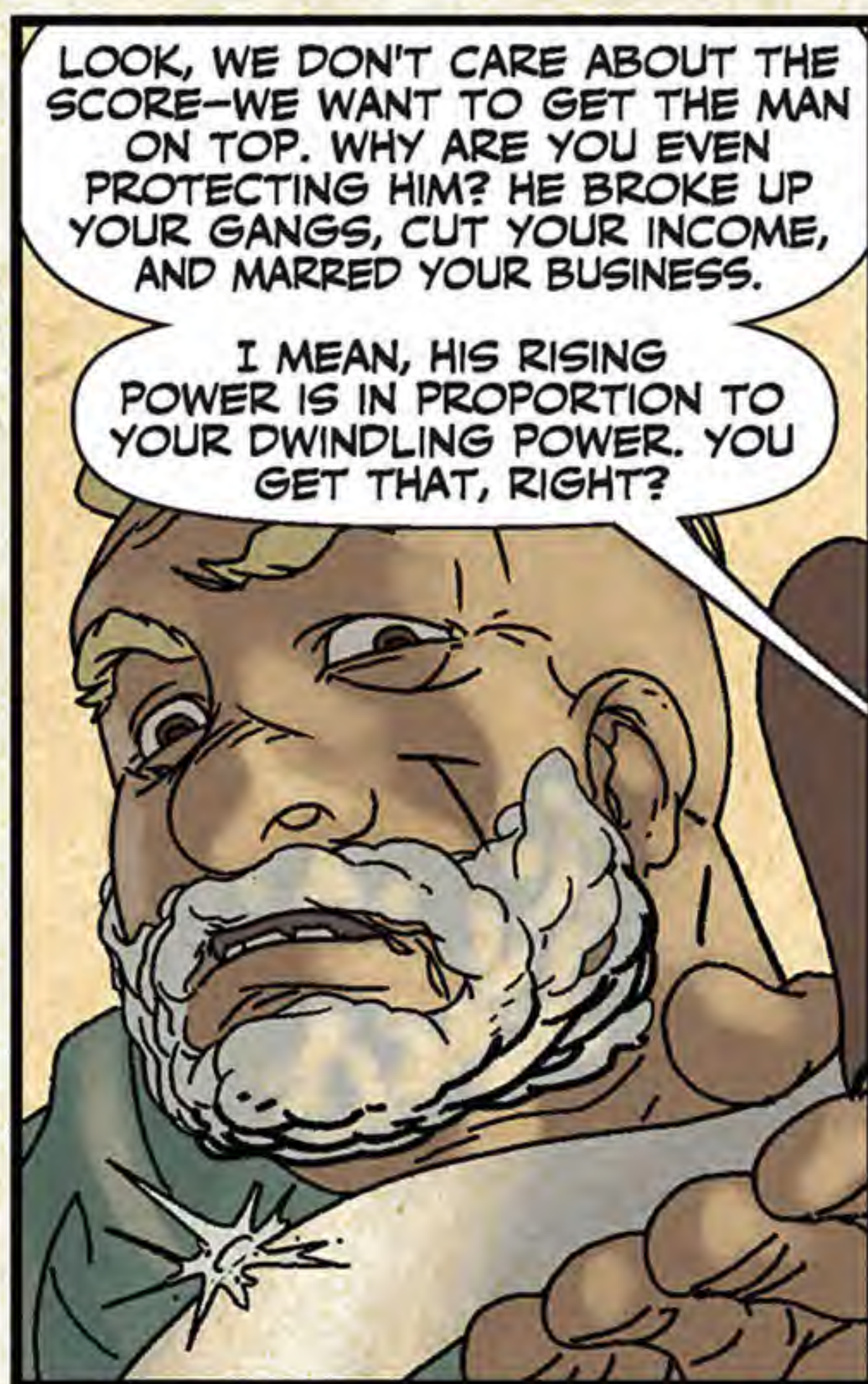
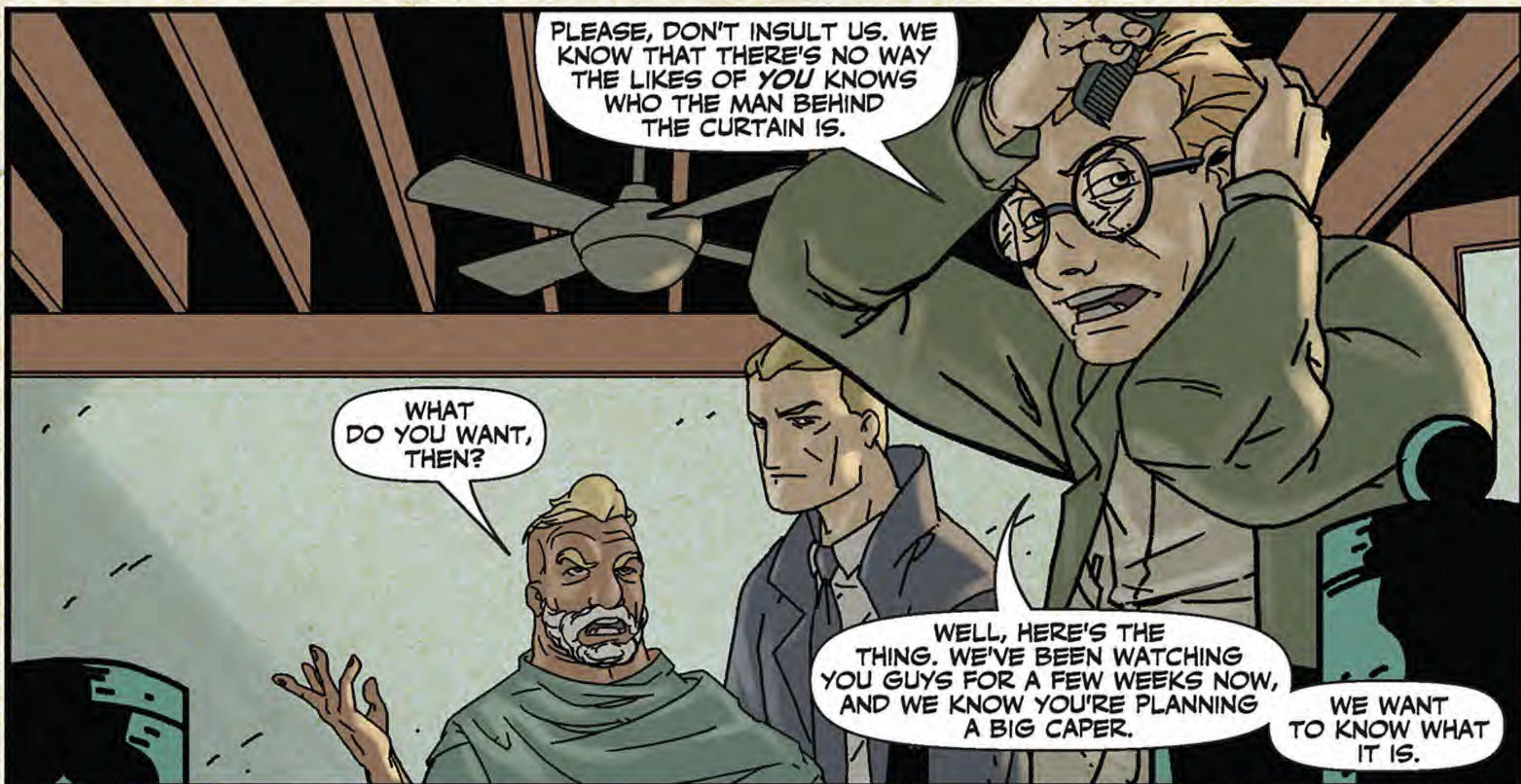


YOU KNOW, EDDIE, YOU'RE RIGHT. THAT'S REALLY UNFAIR OF US.

LOOK, ONE THING I'M GONNA MAKE CLEAR RIGHT NOW...



WHOEVER THIS NEW BOSS IS, I DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS. NO CLUE. IN FACT, I'M NOT EVEN SURE THAT I WANT TO KNOW.





KRYSTOF...



KRYSTOF...

KRYSTOF.

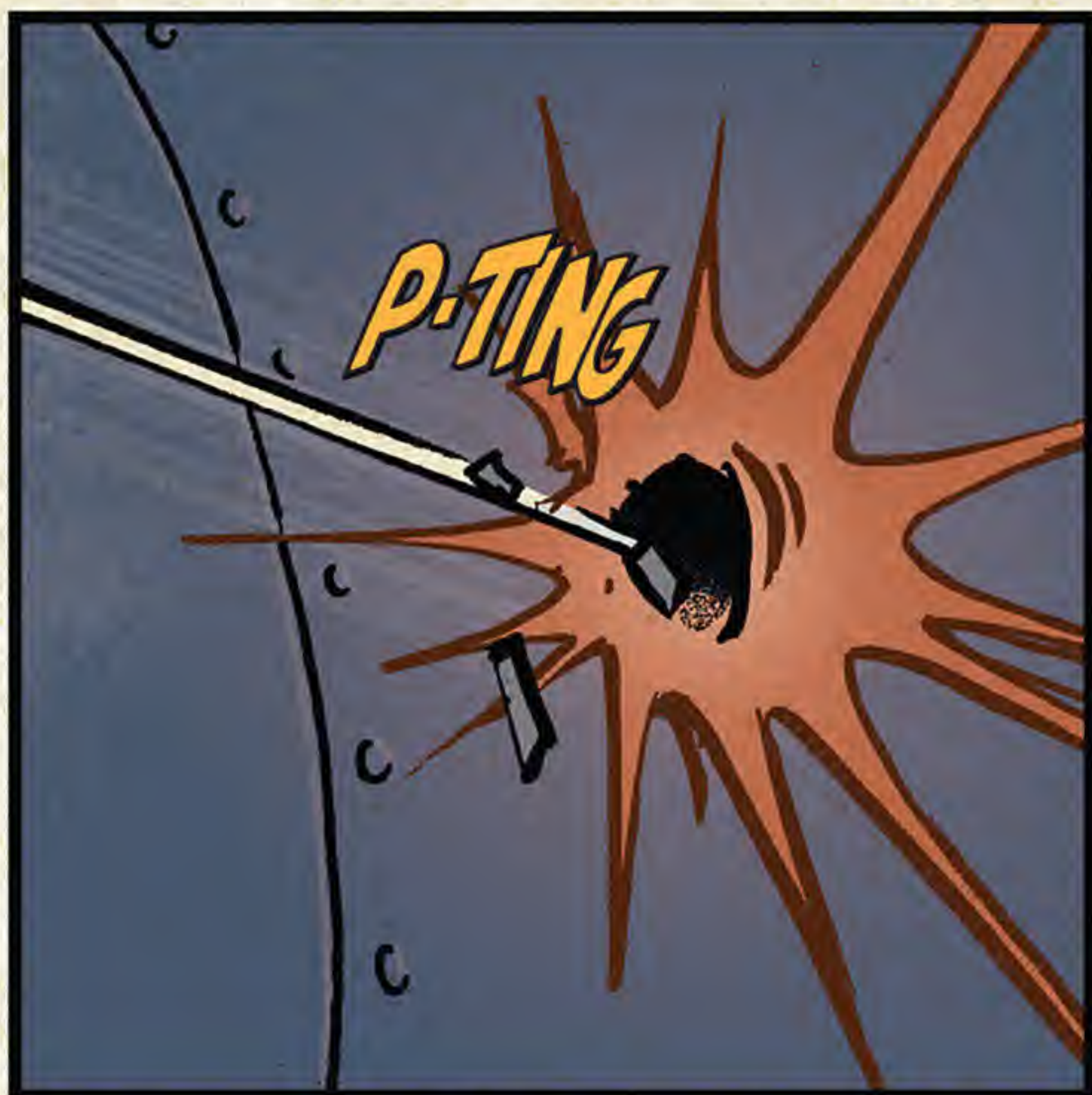
MASTER.

I'M
ON MY WAY,
MASTER.





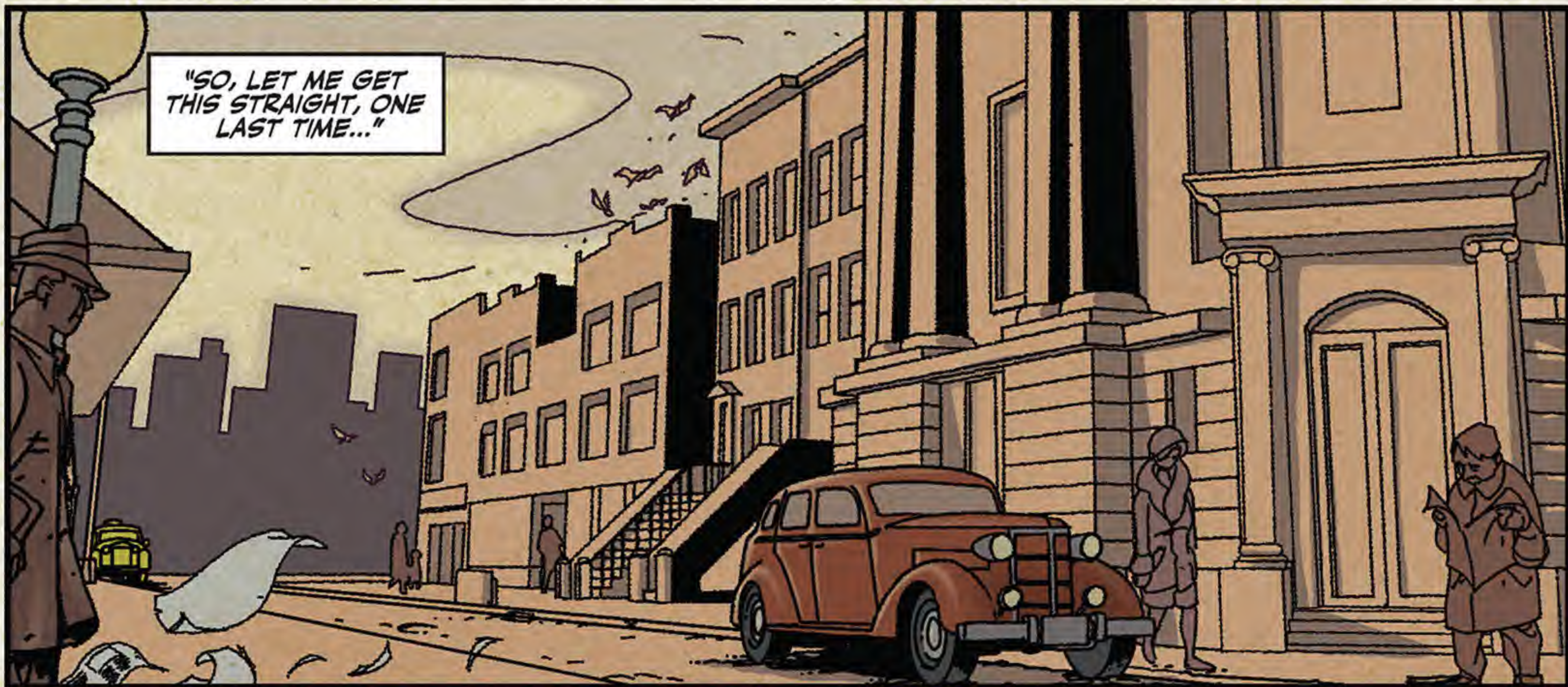








"SO, LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT, ONE LAST TIME..."



TAXI

YOU FELLAS KNOW THERE'S A BANK ROBBERY GOING ON, MAYBE THE BIGGEST IN OUR FINE CITY'S HISTORY, AND YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING?

YOU GOT IT.

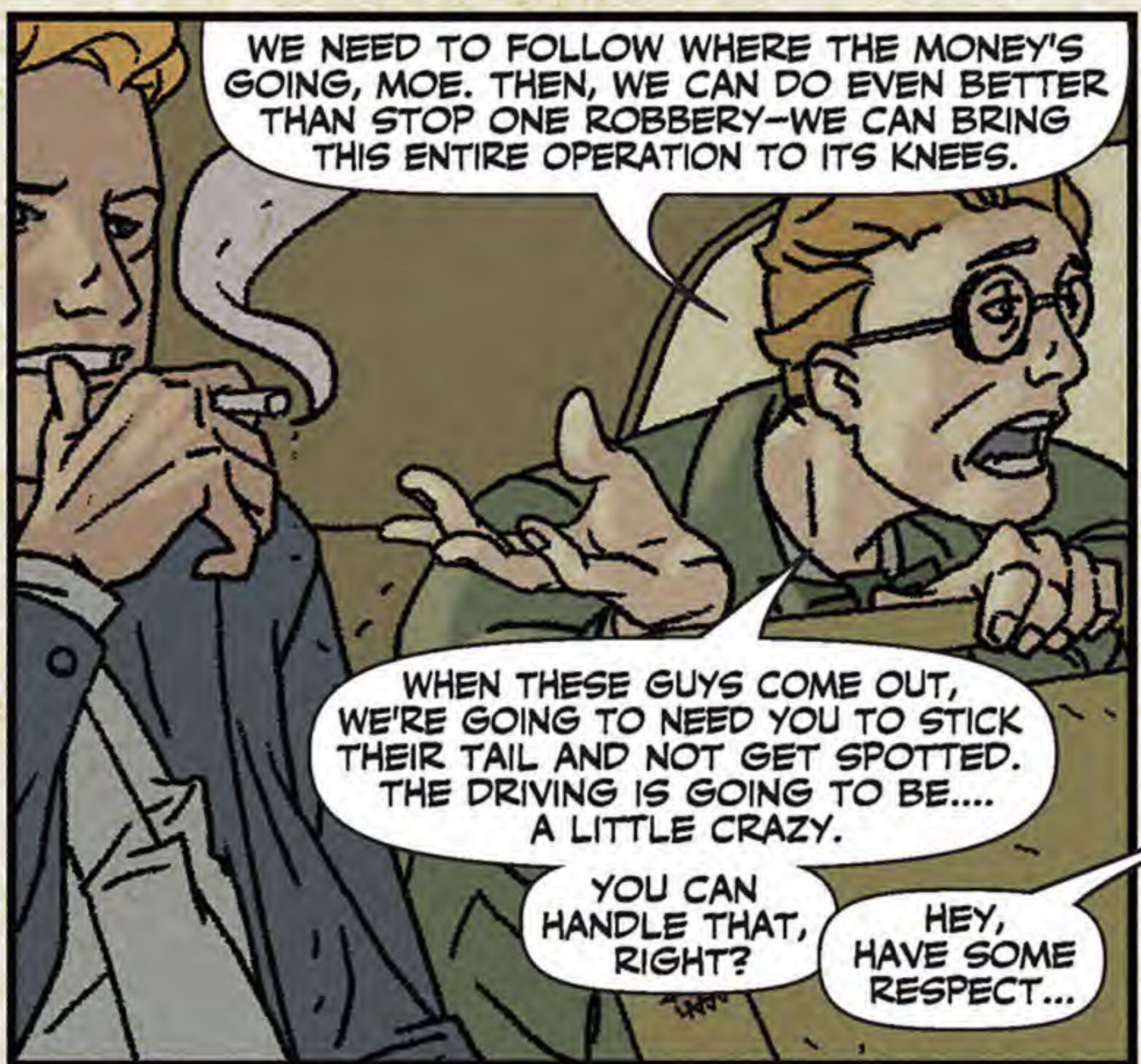


WE NEED TO FOLLOW WHERE THE MONEY'S GOING, MOE. THEN, WE CAN DO EVEN BETTER THAN STOP ONE ROBBERY-WE CAN BRING THIS ENTIRE OPERATION TO ITS KNEES.

WHEN THESE GUYS COME OUT, WE'RE GOING TO NEED YOU TO STICK THEIR TAIL AND NOT GET SPOTTED. THE DRIVING IS GOING TO BE... A LITTLE CRAZY.

YOU CAN HANDLE THAT, RIGHT?

HEY, HAVE SOME RESPECT...

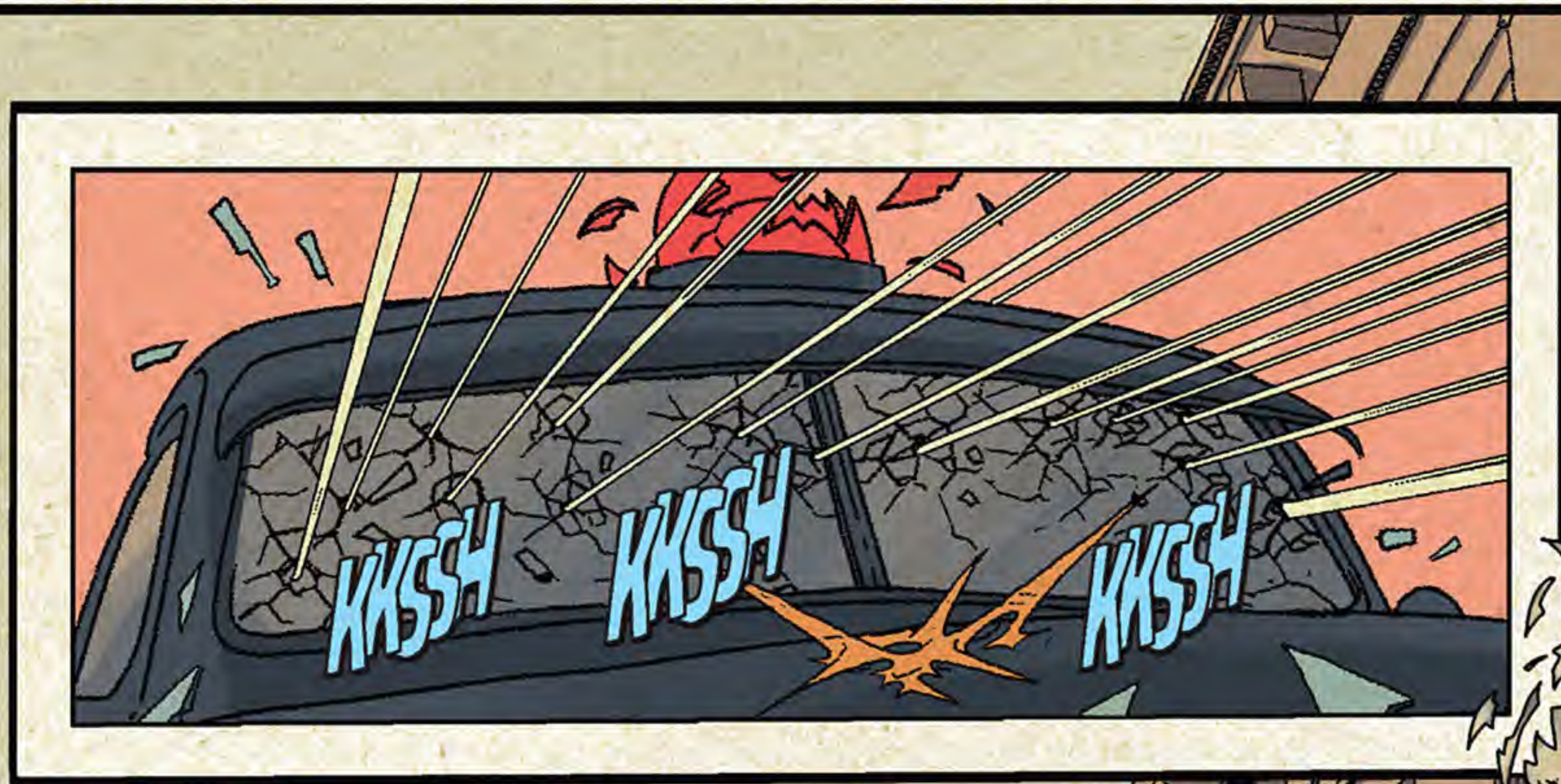


YOU'RE TALKING TO A VETERAN NEW YORK CAB DRIVER HERE.

BESIDES, WE'D LOOK MORE OUT OF PLACE IF I WASN'T DRIVING ERRATIC.













NOW?
NOW COMES THE
FUN PART.

"WE WAIT UNTIL NIGHTFALL
AND WE STEAL EVERY LAST
CENT THEY TOOK."



"DO YOU EVEN KNOW
WHERE WE ARE?"

SURE I DO. WHEN
WE CRASHED, WE WERE
ABOUT 25 MILES FROM
CIVILIZATION.

NOW, I'D SAY
WE'RE ABOUT
24 MILES FROM
CIVILIZATION.

MILES, LOOK...WE'RE
NOT GOING TO MAKE IT.
IT'S GOING TO BE NIGHT
SOON, AND--

LISTEN TO
ME, THAT KIND OF
TALK WON'T DO US
ANY GOOD.

JUST
CONCENTRATE
ON ONE STEP AT A
TIME, KEEP MOVING
FORWARD AND--

HEY, ARE
YOU PAYING
ATTENTION?

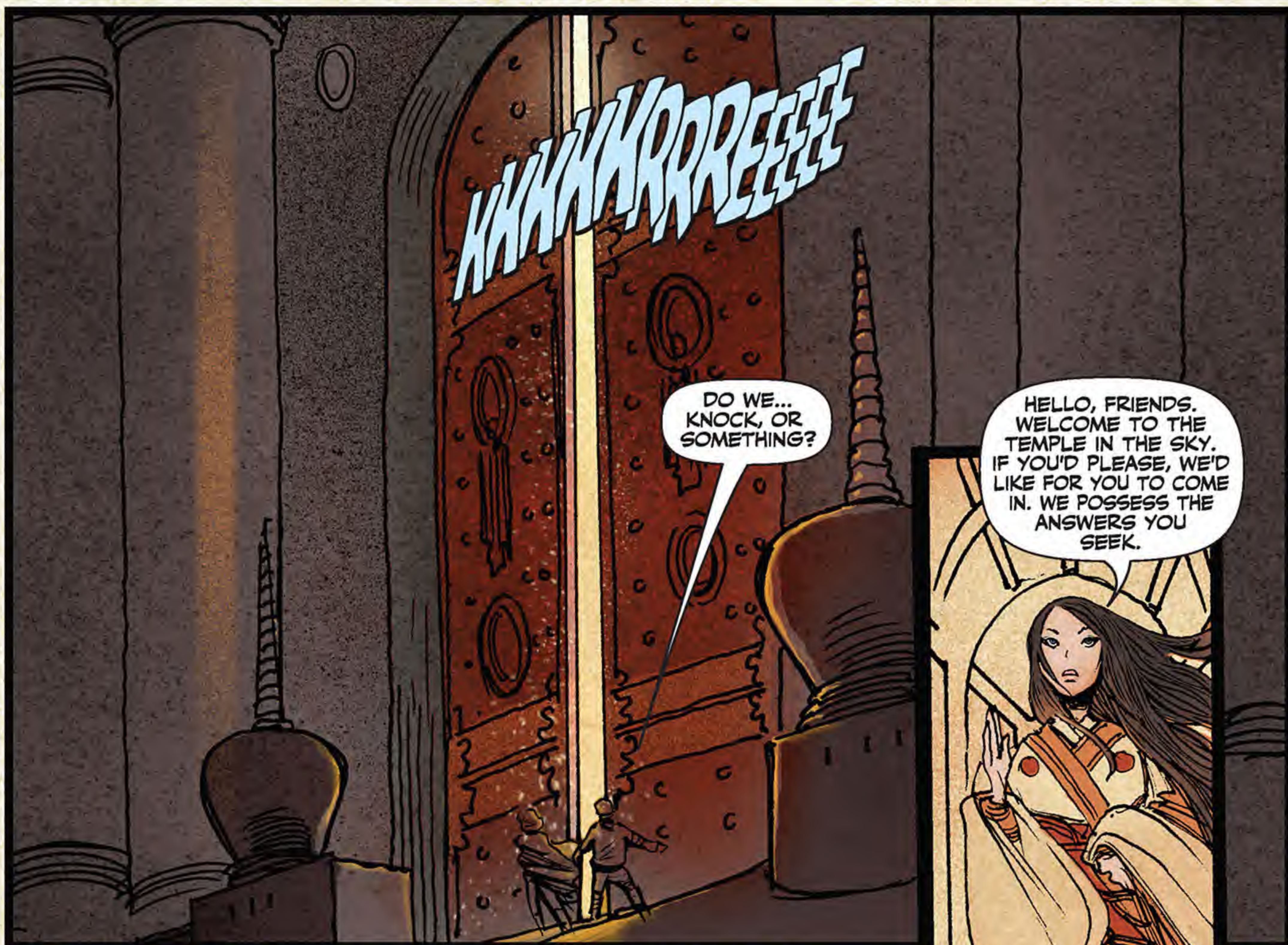
UH, MILES...
DO MIRAGES
HAPPEN JUST IN
THE DESERT,
OR IN OTHER
PLACES AS
WELL?

I'M
NOT SURE.
WHY?



IT'S EITHER A
MIRAGE OR WE'RE DEAD,
AND THAT'S OUR PASSAGE
TO THE AFTERLIFE.

WELL,
AT LEAST
THE AFTERLIFE
HAS GREAT
DESIGNERS.

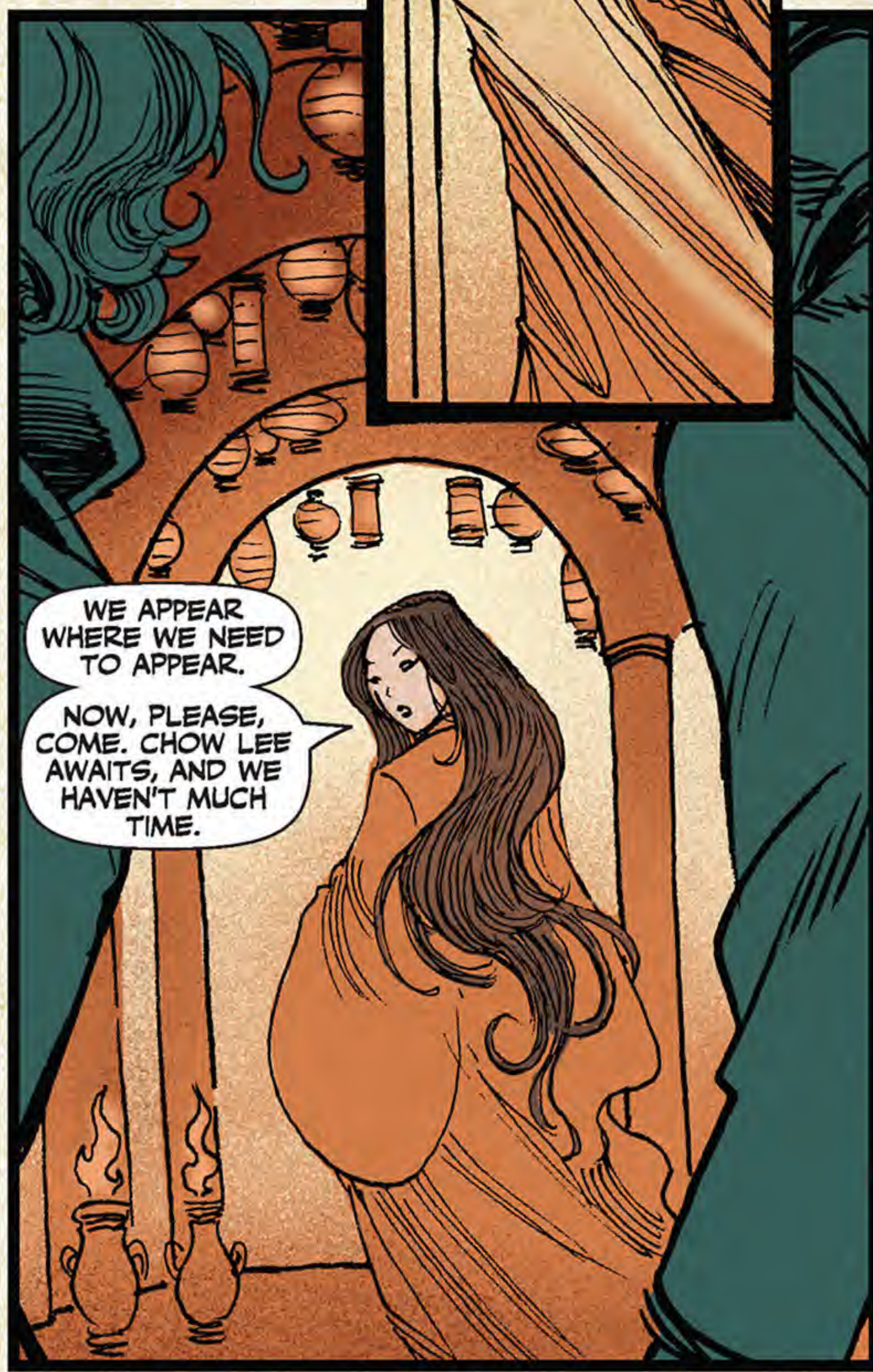


DO WE...
KNOCK, OR
SOMETHING?

HELLO, FRIENDS.
WELCOME TO THE
TEMPLE IN THE SKY.
IF YOU'D PLEASE, WE'D
LIKE FOR YOU TO COME
IN. WE POSSESS THE
ANSWERS YOU
SEEK.



NOW WAIT A SECOND. HOW...HOW DID
YOU *GET* HERE? ONE MINUTE THERE'S
NOTHING BUT MOUNTAIN, THE NEXT
THERE'S A BUILDING FROM THE VEGAS
STRIP. THAT'S NOT NORMAL,
YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?



WE APPEAR
WHERE WE NEED
TO APPEAR.

NOW, PLEASE,
COME. CHOW LEE
AWAITS, AND WE
HAVEN'T MUCH
TIME.

YEARS AGO,
I TRAINED A MAN
WHO WAS MUCH LIKE
THE MAN YOU SERVE,
THE ONE WHO NOW
CALLS HIMSELF
THE SHADOW.



LIKE THE SHADOW, THIS MAN HAD DONE
MANY EVIL THINGS IN HIS LIFE. HE WAS
MERCILESS IN HIS CONQUESTS, BRUTAL
IN HIS VANQUISHING OF ENEMIES.

BUT, IN HIS HEART,
HE LONGED FOR ATONEMENT.
HE WANTED TO BE FREE OF HIMSELF—
HE WANTED TO TRANSFORM
EXACTLY AS LAMONT
CRANSTON HAD.



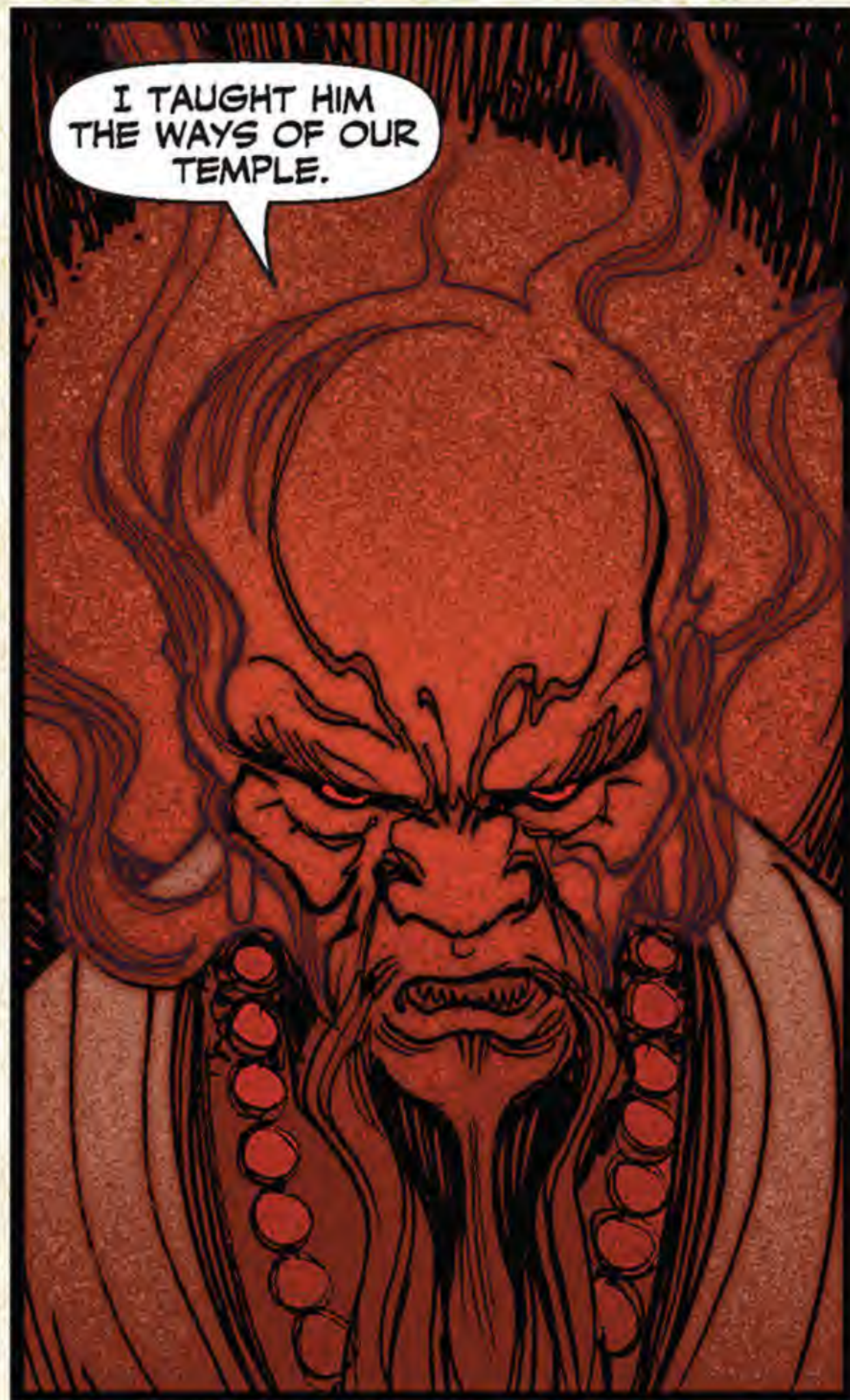
"I TRAINED HIM."



"I BROUGHT HIM
SPIRITUALITY."



I TAUGHT HIM
THE WAYS OF OUR
TEMPLE.



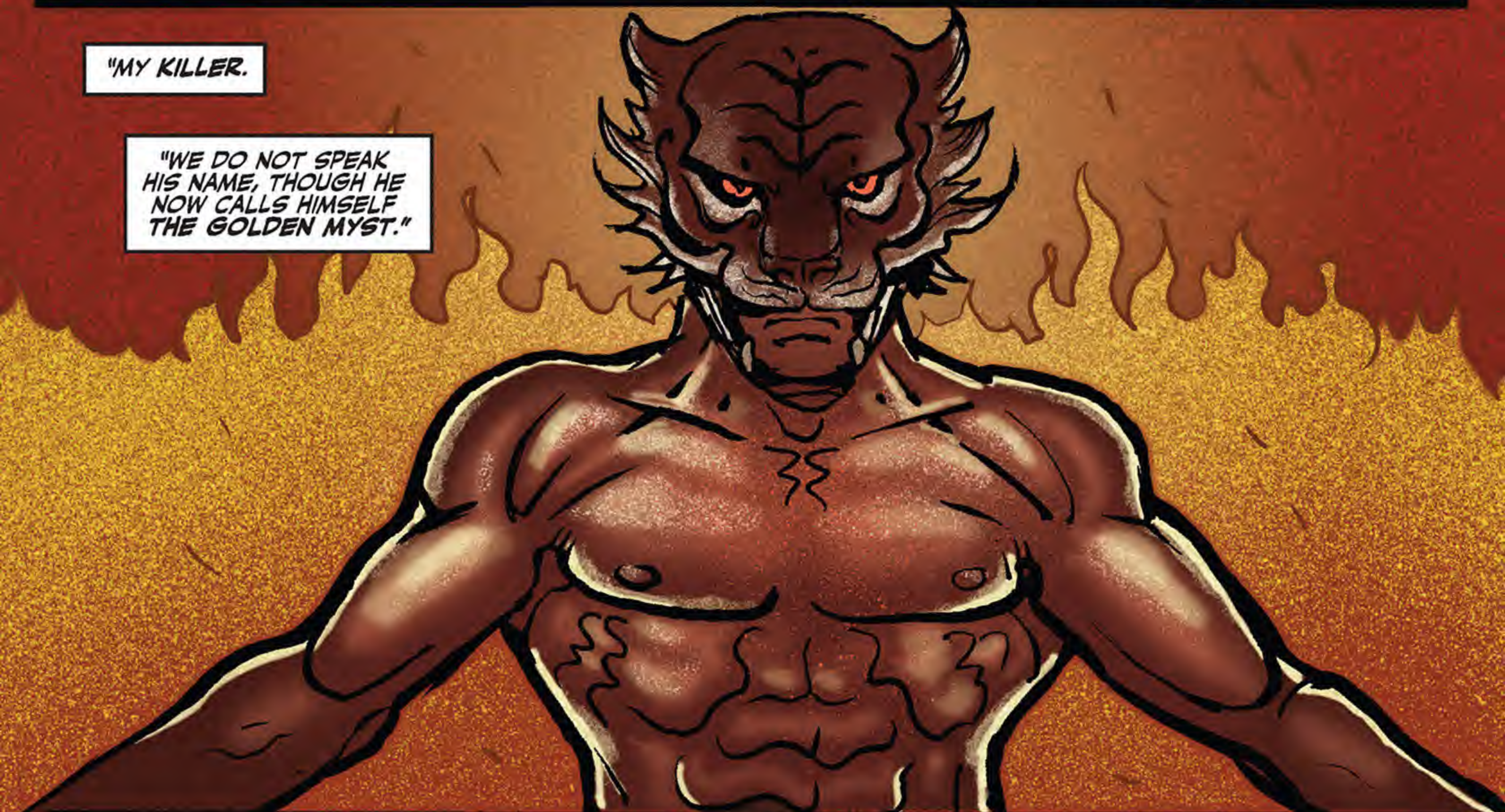


BUT THE
POWER BECAME TOO
MUCH FOR HIM.

*THIS MAN
YOU SEEK, MY
STUDENT, MY
FRIEND...*

"MY KILLER.

"WE DO NOT SPEAK
HIS NAME, THOUGH HE
NOW CALLS HIMSELF
THE GOLDEN MYST."




HOW...HOW
DO WE STOP
HIM?



TAKE THIS
DAGGER. PLUNGE
IT IN HIS BLACK
HEART.

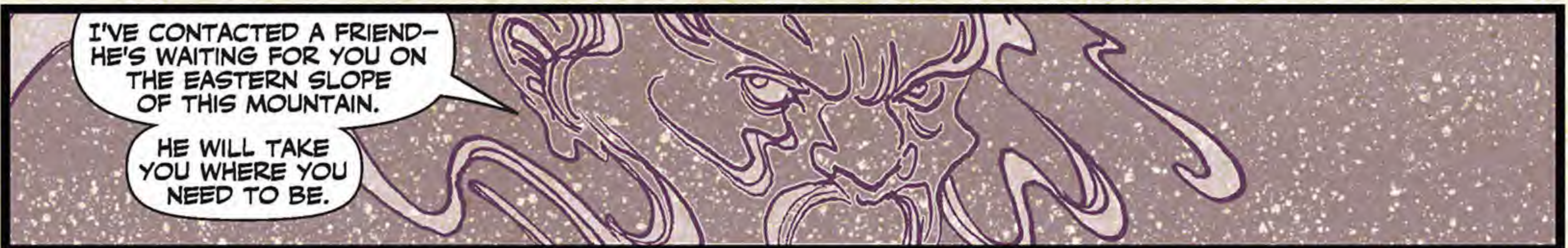
ONLY THEN
WILL EVIL BE
DESTROYED.





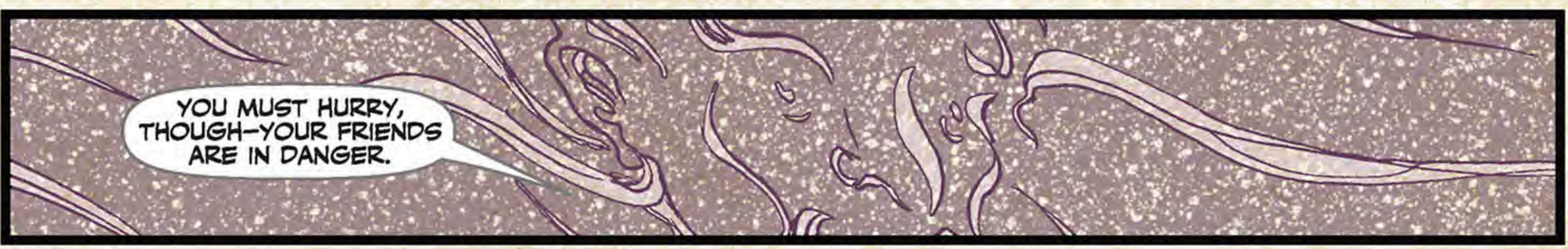
CHOW LEE, WAIT—
WHILE WE'RE DEFINITELY
EAGER TO STAB EVIL IN
ITS HEART, WE HAVE TO
ACTUALLY GET IN
FRONT OF HIM

HOW DO WE
GET BACK TO
NEW YORK?



I'VE CONTACTED A FRIEND—
HE'S WAITING FOR YOU ON
THE EASTERN SLOPE
OF THIS MOUNTAIN.

HE WILL TAKE
YOU WHERE YOU
NEED TO BE.



YOU MUST HURRY,
THOUGH—YOUR FRIENDS
ARE IN DANGER.



THAT WAS
STRANGE.

YEAH,
BUT I'VE SEEN
STRANGER.



NOW LET'S FIND
THIS GOLDEN MYST AND
GIVE HIM THE JUSTICE HE
DESERVES.





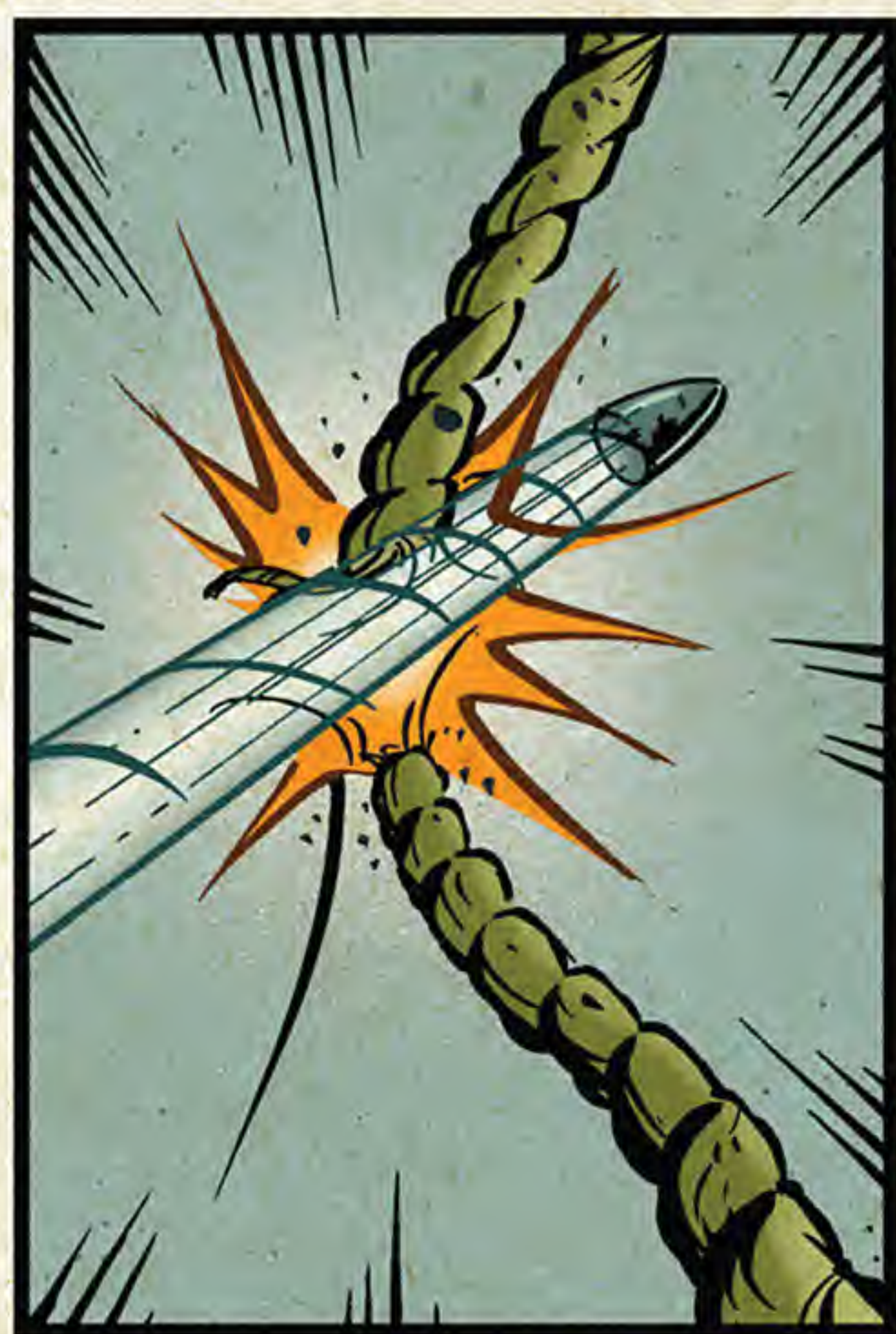


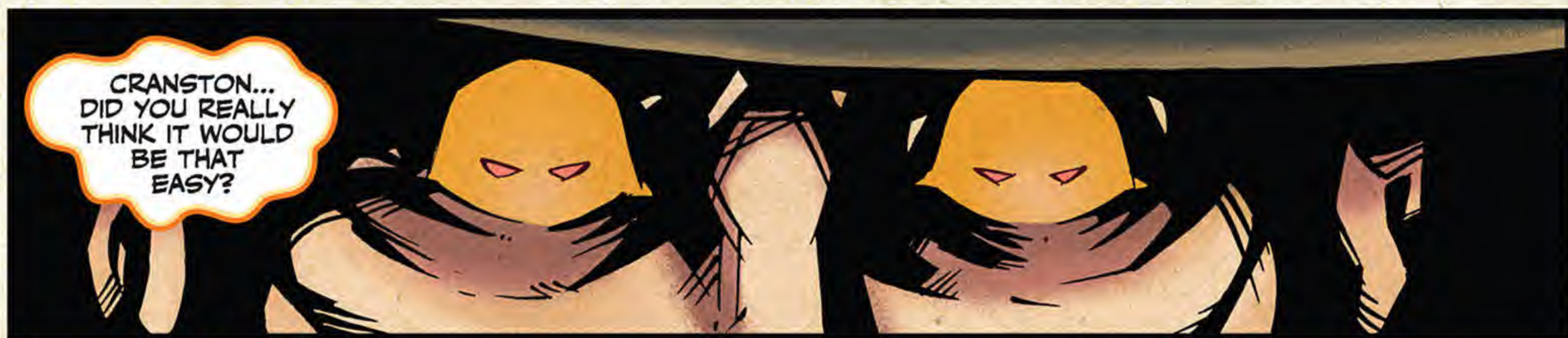
THE WEED
OF CRIME BEARS
BITTER FRUIT.



IT'S TIME
THAT WEED GOT
TORN FROM THE
GROUND.









"ARE WE GETTING THERE OR WHAT?!"



TAKE IT EASY, MARGO. YOU GOT THE BEST CAB DRIVER IN NEW YORK HERE—THERE'S NO ONE WHO WILL GET YOU TO THOSE DOCKS FASTER.



IF WE CAN DO IT WITHOUT INDUCING VOMIT, THAT WOULD BE LOVELY.



HEY, I THOUGHT YOU WERE A PILOT!

AIR, GOOD. STREET, BAD.

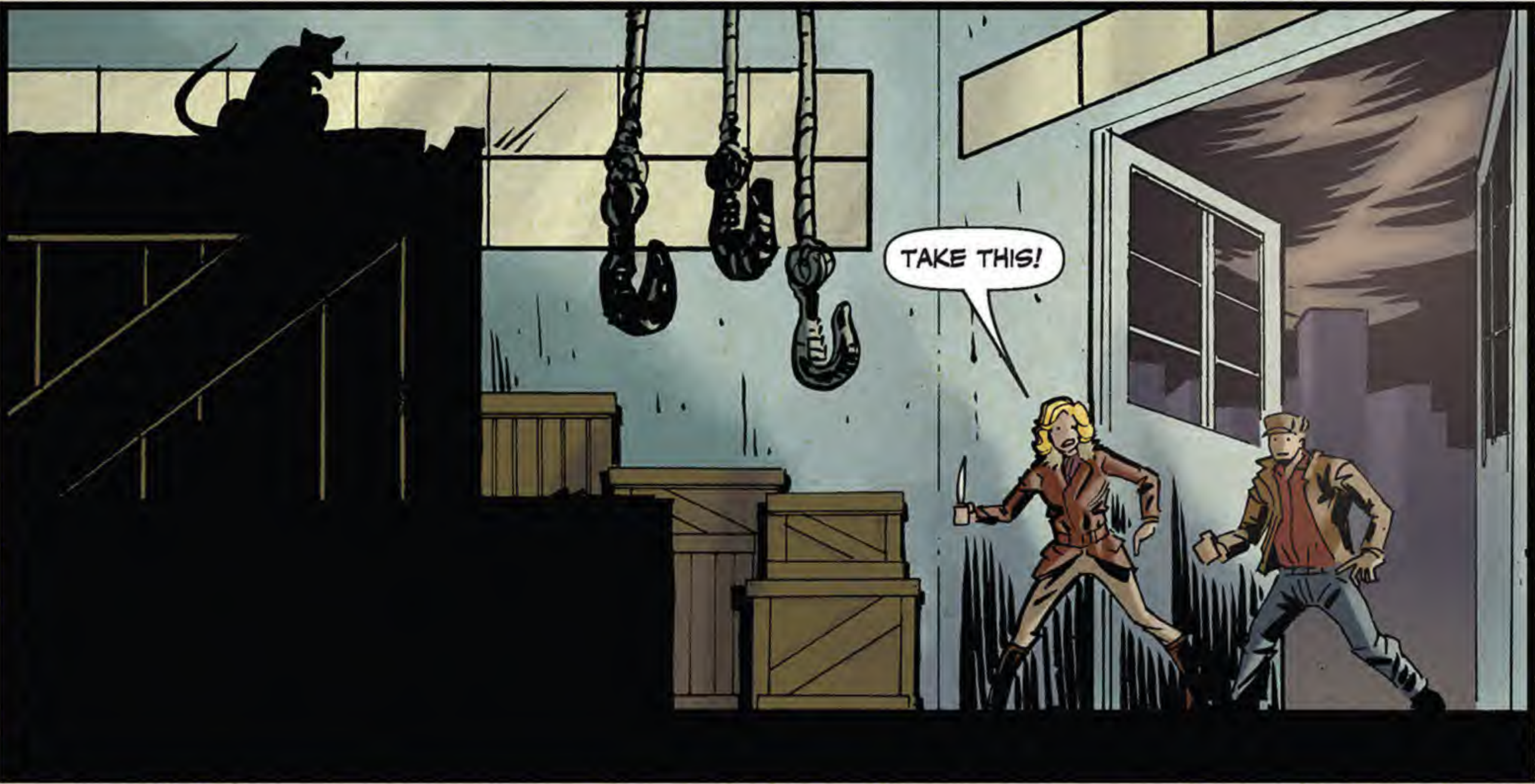


"WELL, DON'T FRET, FLYBOY."

"WE'RE HERE."










AAAAHHHH!





CRIME DOESN'T
PAY, IT'S DOESN'T SLEEP,
IT DOESN'T RELENT. IT WILL
COME BACK AGAIN, AND SOON.
WHEN THAT DAY COMES, I'LL
NEED HELP FROM ALL
OF YOU...

*THE
AGENTS OF THE
SHADOW!*

THE END